

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 MC-02 AID-20 EB-11 TRSE-00 IGA-02

SS-14 NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /099 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ LA/ PLC- PM: JAWILLIAMS: ME

3/15/73 EXT 20296

APPROVED BY ARA: RAHURWITCH

ARA/ CAR: TBURKE/ JBURKE

PM/ MAS: CCHAPMAN (DRAFT)

DSAA: DFAUGHAVIN (DRAFT)

OSD/ ISA: CAPT. GINN (DRAFT)

----- 067961

R 152304 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

INFO DOD

USCINCSO

DA

CSAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048382

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, DR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS

REF: STATE 30610; USCINCSO 091315 Z MAR; SANTO DOMINGO 0938

1. LACKING FURTHER DETAILS FROM GODR THE DEPARTMENT PRESUMES REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS IS FOR THE UH-1 H WHICH IS PART OF A LONG SERIES USED EXTENSIVELY BY BOTH THE U. S. ARMY AND U. S. MARINE CORPS IN VIETNAM. THIS AIRCRAFT IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING TROOPS AS WELL AS MOUNTING FORWARD FIRING MACHINE GUNS.

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY DOD. NO REHABILITATED HELICOPTERS OF THIS TYPE ARE AVAILABLE. NEW PRODUCTION CAN BE PROVIDED FOR APPROXIMATELY DOLS. 338,820 EACH. MINIMUM REQUIRED SUPPORT EQUIPMENT FOR TWO HELICOPTERS.
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COPTERS IS ESTIMATED AT DOLS. 250,000. THIS WOULD INCLUDE SPARE ENGINES, REPAIR PARTS AND TEST EQUIPMENT. DELIVERY TIME FOR THE HELICOPTERS WOULD BE 34 MONTHS FROM SIGNING OF CONTRACT. WEAPONS KITS WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN ONE YEAR LEAD TIME, HOWEVER COST IS UNCERTAIN BECAUSE OF A RECENT BREAK IN PRODUCTION. INCREASED COST AFTER START UP UNKNOWN BUT MINIMUM ESTIMATE IS DOLS. 40,000 PER SET.

3. ACCORDING TO DOD THE H-34, WHICH WAS THE ORIGINAL TROOP CARRYING HELICOPTER FOR U. S. ARMY AND USMC IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FROM USG BECAUSE SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT STOCKS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED FOR TEN YEARS. SHOULD THE GODR WISH TO INVESTIGATE COMMERCIAL PURCHASE OF THIS AIRCRAFT, DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS IT MAY BE AVAILABLE THROUGH A COMMERCIAL BROKER OR FROM SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT, STRATFORD, CONN. SUCH A PURCHASE SHOULD BE CAREFULLY WEIGHED AS SPARE PARTS COULD BECOME A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

4. IN VIEW OF CURRENT GUERRILLA INCURSION, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE BUT IT IS APPARENT THAT NEW HELICOPTERS CANNOT BE DELIVERED IN TIME TO ASSIST. RECOMMEND THAT THE REQUIREMENT BE INCORPORATED INTO LONG RANGE PLANNING OF GODR. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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